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Dated: March 30, 2005

Signature:

Valerie Cohen  
Valerie Cohen

Docket No.: 416272061200  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Vicki L. CHANDLER et al.

Application No.: 09/972,805

Group Art Unit: 1638

Filed: October 5, 2001

Examiner: A. Mehta

For: GENETIC FUNCTIONS REQUIRED FOR  
GENE SILENCING IN MAIZE

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Box Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 30, 2004 (Part of Paper No./Mail Date 11172004), for which a response was due on February 28, 2005. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for an extension of time, extending the time period for response until March 30, 2005. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 24 of this paper.